

House Resolution 1447

By: Representatives Smyre of the 132nd, Epps of the 128th, Dukes of the 150th, Murphy of the 120th, Heckstall of the 62nd, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 18, 2010, as Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Day at the state capitol
2 and inviting members to be recognized by the House of Representatives; and for other
3 purposes.

4 WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., was founded at Howard University, on
5 November 17, 1911, by three students, Brother Oscar J. Cooper, M.D., Brother Frank
6 Coleman, Ph.D., Brother Edgar A. Love, D.D., and Brother Ernest E. Just, Ph.D., who served
7 as their faculty advisor; and

8 WHEREAS, on December 1, 1919, Raymond G. Robinson traveled to Atlanta, Georgia, at
9 his own expense, to help Brothers Harold Thomas, Horace A. Hodges, Harvey Smith, and
10 Lawrence R. Harper establish Eta Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., which was
11 composed of college graduated professional men and selected students from Morehouse
12 College, Atlanta University, Clark College, and Gammon Theological Seminary, as the first
13 chapter of any Black Greek lettered organization to be founded and chartered in the State of
14 Georgia and was renamed Eta Omega Chapter in 1923, "The Mother Pearl of the Seventh
15 District" of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.; and

16 WHEREAS, the Georgia State Organization was established in 1963 and since that time, has
17 established itself as a flagship state organization within the 7th District under the leadership
18 of State Representatives Brother Robert Church (1963-1964, Fort Valley); Arthur Owens,
19 Sr. (1965-1975, Atlanta); Lester B. Johnson, Sr. (1976-1979, Savannah); David L. Brown,
20 Sr. (1980-1982, Atlanta); Samuel D. Jolley, Jr. (1983-1985, Macon); Alonza A. Bennett
21 (1985-1987, Decatur); William "Buck" Crosby (1987-1990, Brunswick); Joseph Gosha
22 (1991-1992, Columbus); Elijah Hill (1993-1995, Warner Robbins); Robert H. Carter
23 (1995-1998, Decatur); Marion B. Williams (1998-2001, Marietta); Ronald J. Taylor
24 (2001-2004, Macon); Wilbur Carver, Jr. (2004-2007, Albany); and James Cistrunk
25 (2007-present, Decatur); and

26 WHEREAS, the most senior Brothers of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., residing in the State
27 of Georgia, initiated 50 years ago or more, include Brothers Arthur Douglas (1935, Rho Psi);
28 Dosh Jackson, Sr. (1935, Psi); Harvey B. Smith (1942, Psi); C. Clayton Powell, Sr. (1945,
29 Psi); Tesse Hill (1945, Beta Psi); Thomas Wood, Jr. (1946, Rho Psi); Samuel Dubois-Cook
30 (1946, Psi); Borah Walton (1946, Beta Psi); Erskine Boazman (1947, Theta Psi); Fletcher
31 Combs (1947, Psi); Alfred Wyatt (1947, Beta Psi); Stanley Goseer (1947, Beta Psi); Eddie
32 Daniels (1949, Rho Psi); William Turner (1950, Xi Psi); Marion Porter (1950, Xi Psi);
33 George Canty (1950, Rho Psi); Bennie Lowe (1950, Beta Psi); Marion McMillan (1950, Xi
34 Psi); and Arthur Hall (1950, Chi Epsilon); and

35 WHEREAS, Georgia has produced two Grand Basili of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.,
36 Harold Thomas and Moses C. Norman, and three First Vice Grand Basili, John Calhoun,
37 Jesse O. Thomas, and Joe Brooks; and

38 WHEREAS, there are Brothers of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., who serve in the Georgia
39 legislature, including Brother Representative Carl Von Epps (1966, Psi); Brother
40 Representative Joe Heckstall (1967, Kappa Epsilon); Brother Representative Winfred J.
41 Dukes (1975, Gamma Zeta); Brother Representative Calvin Smyre (1980, Lambda Iota);
42 Brother Representative Quincy Murphy (1976, Psi Omega); and Brother Representative
43 Earnest Smith (1981, Epsilon Gamma Gamma); and

44 WHEREAS, this historic event was presented by the Georgia State Leadership Council,
45 chaired by State Representative James Cistrunk (1984, Eta); produced by the Georgia State
46 Governmental Relations Committee, chaired by Brother Alonza Solomon (1975, Epsilon
47 Psi); developed by the Georgia State Omega Day Committee, chaired by Brother H.
48 Benjamin Williams (1962, Beta Gamma); and coordinated by Brother William S. Cannon V
49 (1972, Eta Omega).

50 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
51 the members of this body recognize Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., commend the cardinal
52 principles of manhood, scholarship, perseverance, and uplift endorsed by its members and
53 their exemplary public service, and invite its members to be recognized by the House of
54 Representatives at a date and time to be determined by the Speaker of the House of
55 Representatives.

56 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Thursday, February 18, 2010, is recognized as Omega
57 Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Day at the state capitol.

58 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
59 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to State Representative James
60 Cistrunk, Seventh District Representative Keith Jackson, and Grand Basileus Warren Lee.